



1903 ✠ 1978



Nativty Blessed Virgin Mary Parish
Cleveland, Ohio

In Gratitude

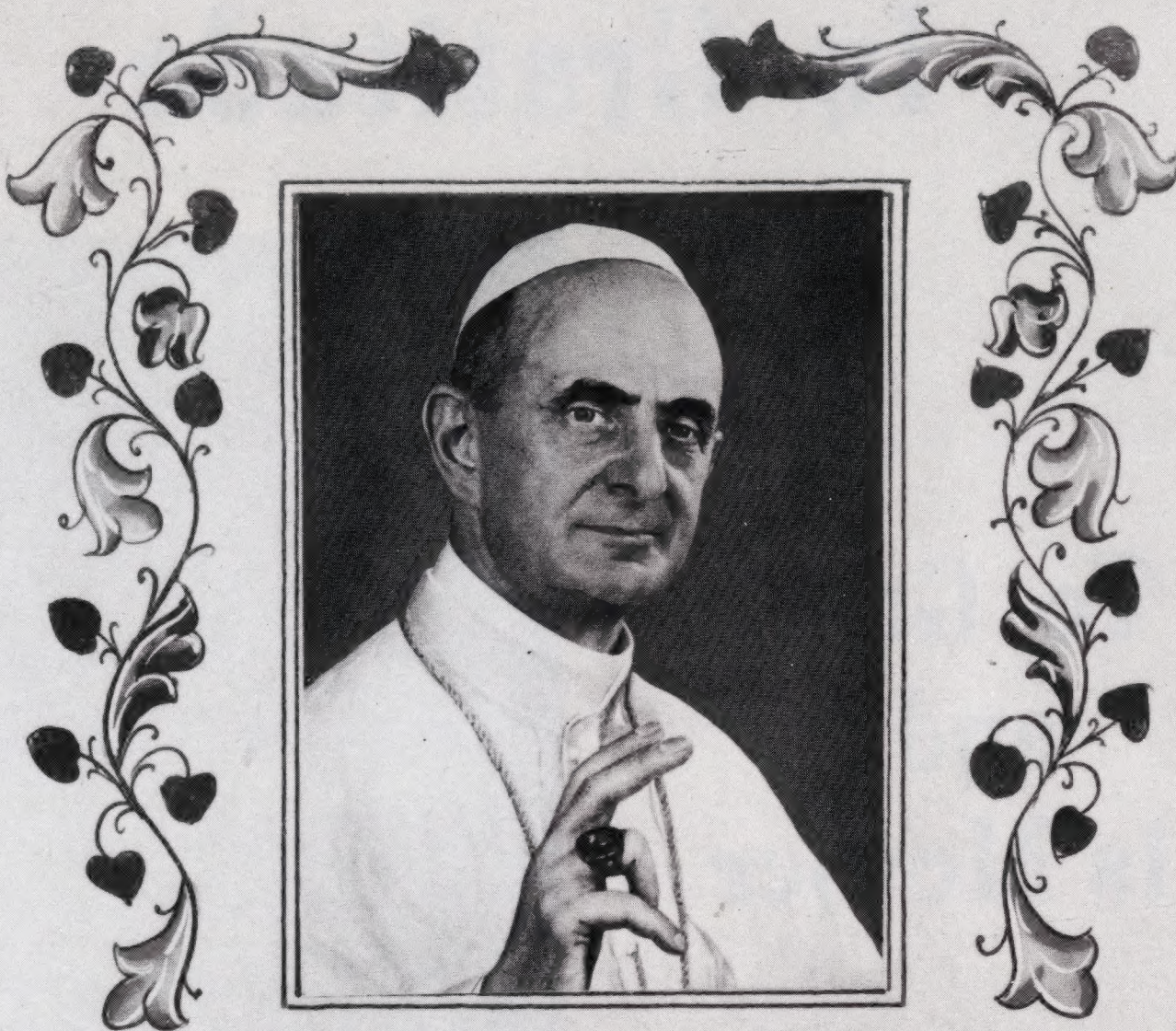
To God
and
His Mother



For 75 Glorious Years

Nativity B. V. M. Church

9614 Aetna Road
Cleveland, Ohio



Most Holy Father
 Rev. Pastor Thomas G.
 Lusoski
 and his Parishioners
 on the occasion of the
 Seventy-fifth Anniversary of the Nativity
 of the Blessed Virgin Mary Parish,
 Cleveland
 request a Special Apostolic Blessing
 September 10, 1978

Sumus Darius Benedictus Apostolicus locutus
 Ex Aedibus Vaticanis die 6 II 1978
 + Antonius M. Chavira
 archiep. E. M. M. M. M. P.

KRATKA DEJINA Z OSADY NARODENIA PANNY MARIE

Osada bola zostavena 24ho januara 1903 z osadnikov sv. Ladislava.

Prvy Duchovny:

Jozef Ptasinski, prišiel 3ho aprila 1903 z Europy. mal prve Dúchovne Obrády vo veľko dome na rohu východnej devat'desiatej tretej ulicy a Way Avenue (na Newburgh). Orenda bol \$15.00 mesačne.

Požemky boli kupene na Aetna Road. Rohový kameň na budovu, dva poschodov do vedna, Kostol a Škola, začiatok budovania 13ho septembra 1903. Osádna požicka \$7600.00 na budovu. Stavba stala \$7575.00 bez nábytku. Farar Jozef Ptašinski nechal farnosť 20ho aprila 1904, nasledoval ho:

Druhy Farar, Julius Kitter len novo vysvätený, neznal Slovensku reč. Po pat mesiacov odošol z osady 30ho Septembra 1904, nasledoval ho:

Tretý Farar, Ladislav Necid, ktorý prišiel z Europy. Navrhovaný verejný Osady 27ho októbra, 1904. Otvoril dva triedovú školu, z učiteľkami, pod kostolom, a začal stavať Farský dom na tým istým mieste kde je teras, v januare 1908. Farar Ladislav Necid bol verejne menovaným Farárom Sv. Ladislava Osady. Na sledoval ho:

Štvrtý Farar, Josef Adamek, novo prihodzujúci z Europy, bol fararom osady za desiat mesiacov, odiesel z osady 8ho novembra 1908. Zohabyl dlh na osadie \$18,000.00. Po jeho odchode na sledoval ho:

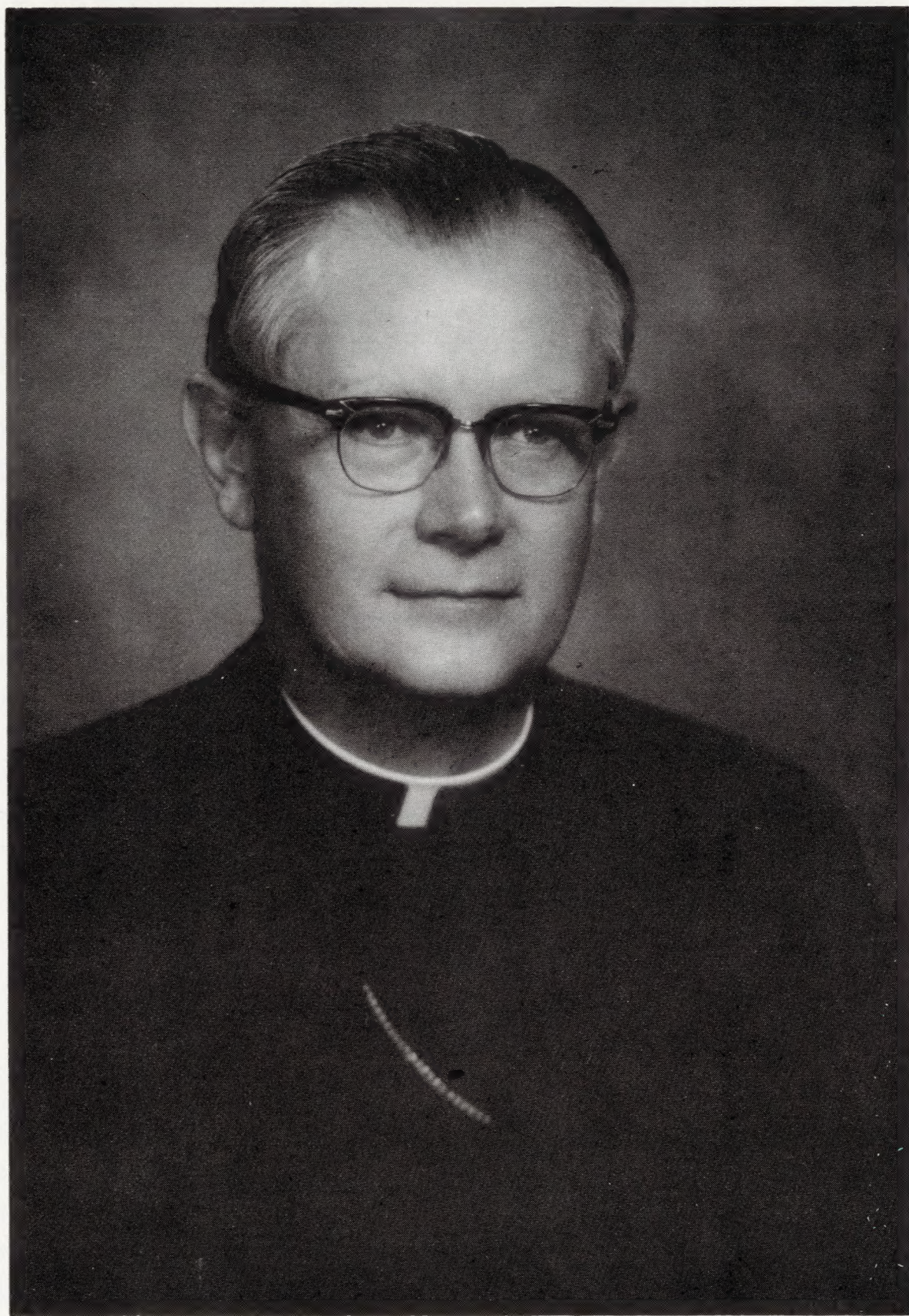
Piaty Farar, Vaclav A. Chaloupka, ktorý verejne prebral Osadu Narodenia Panny Marie, 10ho januara 1909, obstaral sa o dome pre tri sestričky z reholi Sv. Domonika, ktoré prišli v septembri, 1910 z Adrian, Michigan ako vodcove osadnej školy, ktorá už rasla na tri triedove izby. Farar Chaloupka sa obstaral kupiť pozemky na Dunlap Ulicy s tým že Sestričkov dom bol pohnutý z Aetna na Dunlap. A na tým mieste Farar Chaloupka začal školsku budovu, modernu a cehlovú tvárne na Aetna Ulicy, začatok stavby v Novemberu 1915. Prvý začatok školy v obnose \$45,000.00, tri klasove izby, veľku Hallu, Kolkaren, záchodky pre žiakov. Bolo dokončene v Juni 1916. Škola už mala 6 izby, tri pod kostolom a tri v novej budove. Prvý Vypomocní Knaz, Farar Jan Svozil, ktorý bol na starobnej penzie. On mal tretiu omsu od 1ho januara 1917.

Vecej školskeho miesta potreboval pre žiakov, zase dva izby boli pribudované v oktobri 1919, keď železovo ocelarne boli na strajku. Tak že vo východnej strane boli štyri klasove izby, v pivnici dva izby, na druhej poschodie dva izby, tak že už osem žiakové izby boli hotové. Roky 1924 a 1925 školska budova bola skončena.

Rohový kameň na budovanie Kostola začiatok 18ho aprila 1925, a s tým bola ai posväťka novej školy.

Nový Kostol bol už otvorený v Jula 1926 na duchovné obrady. Posväťka nového kostola bola 2ho Oktobra 1927.

Prvý Kaplan, Jan A. Weber, verejne menovaný 1ho októbra 1925.



MOST REV. JAMES A. HICKEY
Bishop of Cleveland

THE CHANCERY
DIOCESE OF CLEVELAND
CHANCERY BUILDING, CATHEDRAL SQUARE
CLEVELAND, OHIO 44114

Office of the Bishop

Dear Family of Nativity of the Blessed Virgin Mary Parish,

I am very happy to congratulate you on the seventy-fifth anniversary of your parish community's foundation.

A great deal of history has been made in this last three - quarters of a century, history that is well reflected in the establishment and development of Nativity Parish. Begun to respond to the needs of the great number of Slovak immigrants who settled in the southern portion of Cleveland, the parish soon flourished under the leadership of Father Vaclav A. Chaloupka, who was pastor for nearly fifty years!

Nativity Parish has had a proud history of helping those new to our country adapt to new surroundings and lifestyles. The Slovak language and culture has been fostered and preserved over the years by many of the priests, sisters, and parishioners, in order that the rich heritage and background of the people might continue to be a meaningful and appreciated part of their lives.

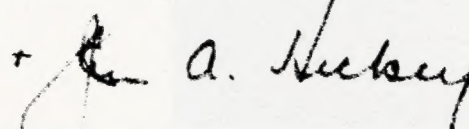
The changing patterns of life in the city and neighborhood provide a challenge to the people of Nativity Parish. No longer a community of immigrant people, but now a sign of Catholic faith and tradition in a largely non-Catholic area, your parish family has a new role to play.

This jubilee is a time to look back and give thanks, as well as to look forward with a renewed dedication to the task of facing the challenges the future will provide. Much has been accomplished in seventy-five years and much still remains to be done.

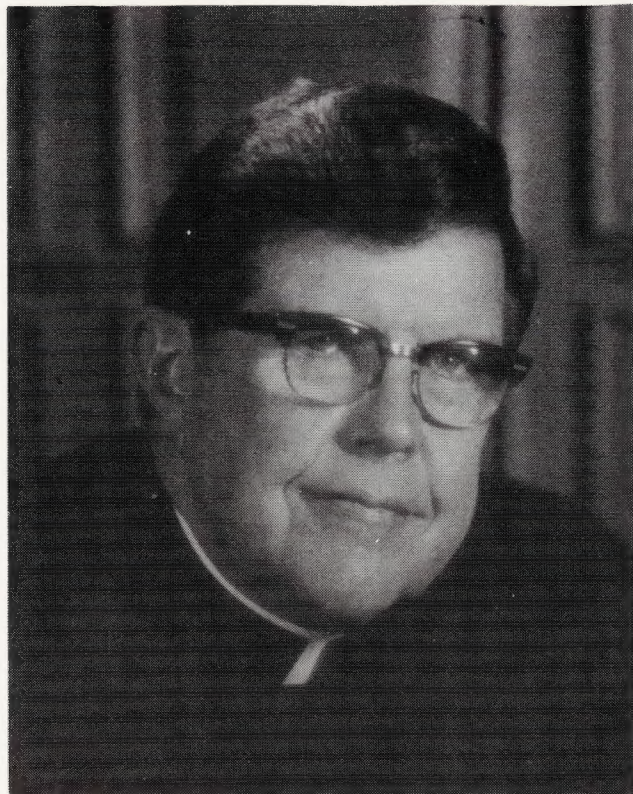
We give thanks to God for all those people who came to this country from their native land to establish a new home with practically nothing except their courage and faith, and a willingness to work. We pray too, that we may be worthy successors to build on such a firm and strong foundation.

With every blessing, I am

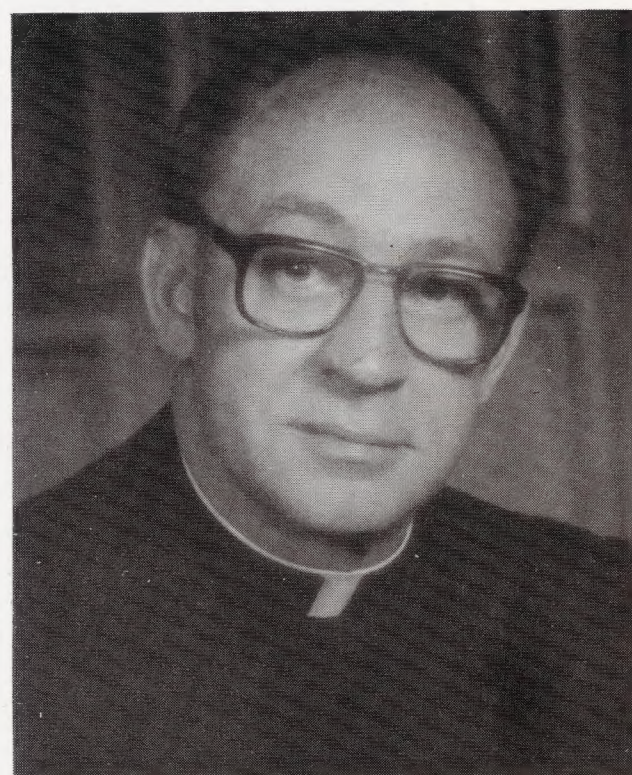
Sincerely in Christ,



(Most Reverend) James A. Hickey
Bishop of Cleveland



MOST REV. MICHAEL J. MURPHY
Aux. Bishop of Cleveland



MOST REV. GILBERT I. SHELDON
Aux. Bishop of Cleveland



MOST REV. CLARENCE G. ISSELMAN
Aux. Bishop of Cleveland

PARISH STATISTICS

Baptisms to date		5,053
Marriages		1,790
Deaths		2,125
Most parishioners	1964	3,067
Present number of parishioners	1978	548
Number of Households	1964	1,530
Number of Present Households	1978	274
Number of Pastors		9
Number of Assistant Pastors		11
Religious (Nuns)		34
Religious (Priests)		8
Graduates of Nativity School		2,921
Total acreage		4 acres

A Message from the Pastor....

As Nativity of the Blessed Virgin Mary Parish celebrates its 75th anniversary, we must realize that an anniversary is more than merely years of existence or years of survival. It is first and foremost a tribute to the hard-working, faith-filled and heritage-conscious Slovaks, who sacrificed their time and money to build their own parish church - a church where their language, traditions and customs would be observed and honored in their adopted country. It was their determination and love of God that won the bishop's approval, provided the priest, and gave them the strength to build this living monument to God - a monument that is physically evident in the beautiful buildings of their parish.

Secondly, an anniversary is a bank of memories. Memories of years filled with successes and failures, of hopes and disappointments, joys and sorrows, hopes and promises. Hundreds were born and baptized here, received their primary education here, married here, and saw their sons and daughters do the same.

Some of these sons and daughters gave their lives to religion, becoming priests and nuns. Others gave their lives in service to their country as outstanding citizens; others for a few years in the armed forces where

some made the supreme sacrifice of dying for their country. Some people lived out their golden years of old age here, and hundreds were sent back to God with the beautiful rites of their church in the familiar surroundings in which they lived.

Thirdly, an anniversary is a time of appreciation and obligation. As we enjoy the benefits of the past, we are grateful for what has been done and we dedicate our lives to a relationship of love with God and neighbor, doing the best we can to live up to the traditions and customs of faith, service, love and commitment handed down by our forefathers.

Finally, an anniversary is a hope for the future. Just as historically there is a nativity of our Blessed Mother, and a parish named Nativity of the Blessed Virgin which can never be erased from the pages of time, so we hope and pray that there will always be a Nativity in the hearts and minds of her sons and daughters, grandsons and granddaughters in the years of the future. Let's hope that there will always be someone somewhere who can say - "I come from Nativity parish on Aetna Road."

God grant us all a happy, holy and healthy anniversary and many more to come!

*Jubilantly yours in Christ
F. Thomas J. Lucorski*



REV. THOMAS J. LUSOSKI
Present Pastor



NATIVITY B. V. M. PARISH

At the turn of the century when conditions in Europe were such as to deny a livelihood to many of its citizens, immigration to the United States from Central Europe was gathering momentum. People left their native land to seek freedom from oppression and freedom to earn a decent living.

Among the many who came, were Slovaks from the land of the Tatra Mountains. They brought with them a desire to work for a decent livelihood, and an intense faith which they inherited from their forefathers.

Many of these immigrants settled on Cleveland's East Side where the industrial empire of the city was located. The Southeast section of the city was their goal, for here many steel plants were located and these afforded a place to work. Having been located, they found that they were lacking something very near and dear to them.

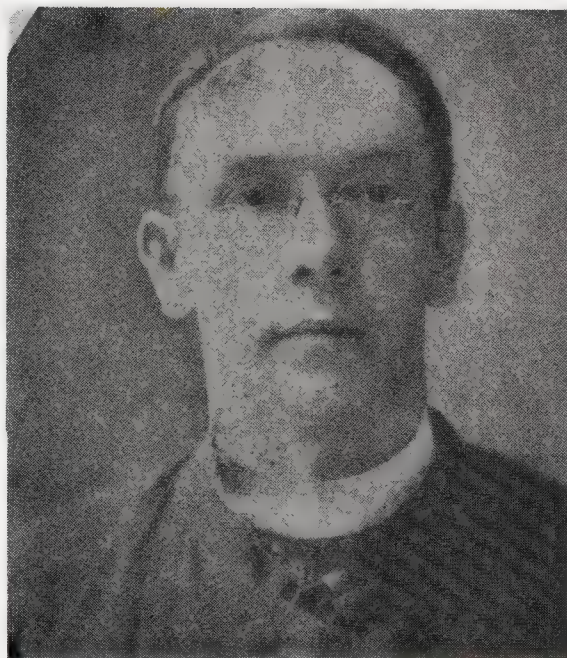
The Church, which they learned to know and love was far from their homes and they had to journey to St. Ladislav Church on Holton Avenue. Several of the more progressive among the immigrants set to the task of founding a Church of their own.

In 1902 the pastor of St. Ladislav, Rev. Francis Horvath, gave helpful encouragement and assistance to the small group who wished to start the new church. They approached the Bishop of the

Diocese, Rt. Rev. Ignatius Horstmann, who granted his permission on the condition that they raise a sum of \$2000.00. This sum was personally donated by four men: Paul Putka, \$1,000.00; Joseph Rebic, \$500.00; Francis Spisak, \$250.00; and Stephen Kitko, \$250.00.

They purchased a home on East 93rd Street and Way Avenue, formerly the home of Dr. Mae Schimkola, just recently razed, after obtaining the required Ecclesiastical permission. This was the beginning of Nativity B.V.M. Parish. A handful of hardy people, a small place for worship and a debt. No pastor was assigned because there were no priests to be had, but priests from other places came to have Mass for these enterprising people.

The first resident pastor was the Reverend Joseph Ptasinski. He set out to erect a church for the struggling parish. On what is the



Rev. Joseph Ptasinski

present site of the parish, he erected a combination Church and School. The first floor consisted of rooms for a school and the second floor was to be the place of worship, the Church. This building was dedicated amid great solemnity on December 6, 1903. The Parish was on its way.

Father Ptasinski gave way to the Reverend Julius Kitter, the second pastor who was the spiritual leader of Nativity from April of 1904 to October of 1904.



Rev. Julius Kitter

The Reverend Ladislav Necid became the third pastor in October of 1904 and he was our pastor till November of 1907. Under his pastorage more property was purchased and the first permanent rectory was



Rev. Ladislav Necid

built. He did not stay to enjoy his project for just at the completion of the rectory he was called to be pastor of St. Ladislav.

In his place came the Reverend Joseph Adamek who remained till November of 1908. The Parish was without a pastor from that time till January 10, 1909.



Rev. Joseph Adamek

Father V. A. Chaloupka came to this struggling parish and set out to place the parish among the best in the diocese. It was a growing parish and as such, beset by many problems.

The immigrants were coming faster than the parish could care for them and their children. This necessitated a building program in keeping with the needs of the parish.

A school was a real need. Sisters of St. Dominic from Adrian, Michigan were placed in charge of the three room school in 1910. Additional land was purchased to

make provisions for an enlarged school. The frame Church was moved to Dunlap and in November of 1915 the first section of our present school building was begun. At its completion in June 1916 the parish had six classrooms, 3 in the new building, and 3 in the frame building. A large auditorium in the new school building as well as bowling alleys formed the center of activities for the growing parish. Classroom space proved insufficient and a small frame building was erected to the needed classrooms. This was done in 1919 during the great steel strike. In 1924 the East wing of the present school was added.

With the parish growing the Church became too small for its needs. Plans for a new Church were drawn and the cornerstone of the present Church was laid on April 18, 1925. The Church was dedicated on

October 2, 1927 after having been in use from July of 1926. The delay in the dedication was caused by the slow progress in the arrival of the permanent altars which were imported from Italy.

With the completion of the Church, the building plans of the Parish did not cease. The west wing of the present school was added in 1930 so that with its completion, Nativity Parish had a school of twelve classrooms, a very fine auditorium, clubrooms, bowling alleys, kitchen facilities, a checkroom, and rest rooms.

An addition to the rectory was made in 1937 for the accommodation of the priests. Now with the permanent assistant the rectory built in 1907 was small.

The Sisters teaching in the parish school were housed in two



NATIVITY CHURCH & RECTORY (Inset)

homes fronting the parish property on Dunlap. The accommodations were, to say the least, inadequate. Accordingly, a fine Convent for the Sisters was completed in 1950. Here the sisters lived in a fine modern building, with their own chapel, parlors, recreation room, study hall and all the needed modern comforts. With this building, the parish had finally reached the end of its building program.



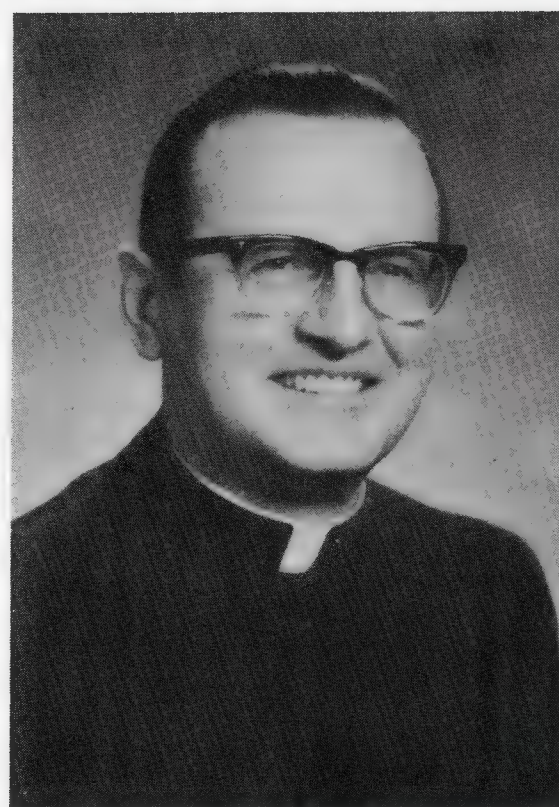
Rev. V. A. Chaloupka

In September, 1956 Reverend John J. Humensky became pastor of Nativity Parish. During his pastorate, in 1960 he had the interior of the church remodeled and decorated. At this time the rectory was also given a new look to accommodate assistance and visiting priests. A source of great pride to Father Humensky was the school library which contained 3200 books.



Rev. John J. Humensky

Reverend Stephen F. Radecky, one of our former associates, came back to Nativity as pastor in March, 1968. More additions were made to the rectory. A portable altar was added in the church. He remodeled the school kitchen and the barroom.



Rev. Stephen F. Radecky

The history of Nativity Parish contains the names of many priests who gave service during the years of its existence.

Rev. Joseph Ptasinski	February 1903-April 1904
Rev. Julius Kitter	April 1904 - October 1904
Rev. Ladislav Necid	October 1904 - November 1907
Rev. Joseph Adamek	November 1907 - November 1908
Rev. Vaclav Chaloupka	January 1909 - July 1956
Rev. John J. Humensky	September 1956 - March 1968
Rev. Stephen F. Radecky	March 1968 - July 1971
Rev. Richard J. Ondreyka	July 1971 - 1974
Rev. Thomas J. Lusoski	November 1974 -



Fr. Richard J. Ondreyka

Besides the pastors who served, there were others who gave of their time and effort in the growth and progress of the parish. The Reverend John Svozil, a priest in retirement, came on weekends to aid the pastor. The first permanent assistant, the Reverend John Weber, was assigned to the parish in 1925. He remained till 1931. His place was taken by the Reverend Hovanec who remained until 1932. Then came the Reverend Joseph Krisko and he served till 1936. His place was taken by the Reverend Stephen J. Blasko who served till

May of 1945. After him came the Reverend John M. Kraynik who left in May of 1950. His place was taken by the Reverend Stephen M. Marjenin. Then came Reverend Joseph Babik, (1954-1964), Reverend Stephen F. Radecky (1957-1961); Reverend John T. Seliga (1961-1966); Reverend Desider Hoffman (1961-1968); Reverend Robert J. Hanzo (1966-1970), and finally the last associate pastor at Nativity B.V.M., the Reverend Joseph E. Mach (1970-1971). The progress of the Parish was aided by these priests in many ways. Their assistance in the spiritual and material work of the parish has helped to make the parish what it is today.



Fr. Thomas J. Lusoski

Nativity B.V.M. Parish was composed of Slovak immigrants from the land of Slovakia and their children. They are middle-class people, industrious, God-fearing. Most of them owned their own homes and most of them worked in near-by steel mills. They are people who want to provide for the future of their children both spiritually and materially. They send their children to the Parish School

and then on to Catholic High School. Some have even provided college training for their children. They supported their Church and school and participated in their various activities. Most of them belonged to one or more of the parish societies, thus becoming active members of the Church in action. Their faith is strong. Having inherited that from their forefathers, they seek to instill that same faith in the hearts of their children making them good citizens and good Christians. This is evident from the number who served in the Armed Forces of our Country either as draftees or as enlisted personnel. Many of them were called upon to make heroic sacrifice and many returned with decorations of a grateful nation.

The second and third generations held on to all that was given them by their parents or grandparents. Things started to change. After World War II many of the second generation parishioners went on to receive a higher level of education and the steel mills were no longer the only place to work. Another generation later, their progeny continued this trend and many of our youngsters went out across the country to settle in various places to practice their professions and skills to an even higher degree.

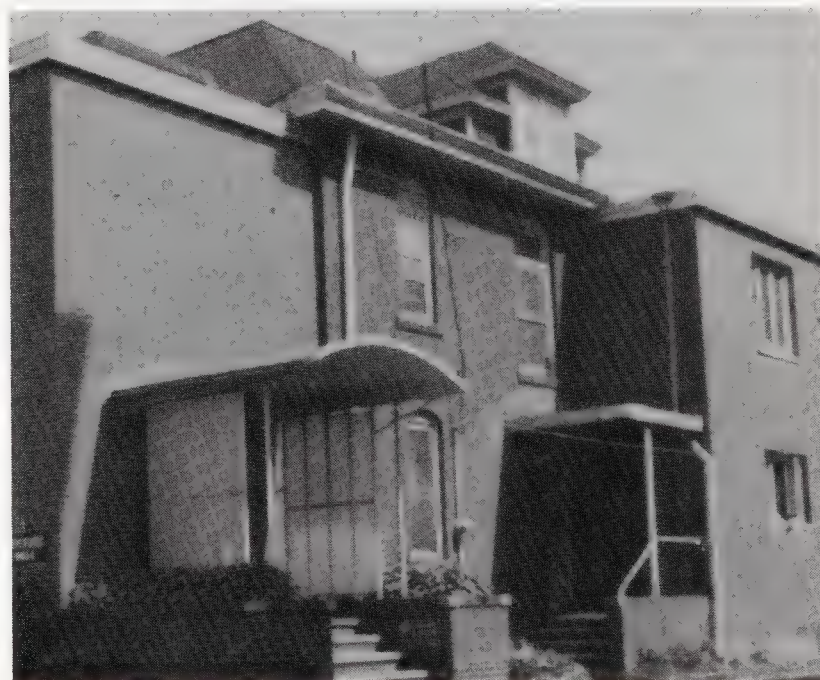
Over the periods of time the number of families rose to 1530, and then slowly dwindled to its present day number of 274. Over 70% of our parishioners today live in the suburbs, surrounding Cleveland. To these people, Nativity B.V.M. Church is a permanent part of their lives, and their support of our Church is a prime example of that

fact.

Many of the children of Nativity people are now serving in the Vineyard of the Lord as consecrated men and women of Religion. More than thirty five of its young women are in various Sisterhoods serving Church throughout the nation. There are eight ordained priests of the parish. The people of Nativity are good people - civic and religious-minded.

The following parish organizations were founded during the seventy-five year period:

St. Francis Br. 398
Nativity B.V.M. Br. 141 FCSLA
Nativity B.V.M. Br. 428 FCSU
Sodality of Our Lady
St. Ann Society
Sokols Br. 285
St. Elizabeth Br. 527
Slovak Rosary Society
Men's Choir
Parent Teachers Unit
Rosarians
St. Rita Br. 423
Holy Name Society
St. Therese Br. 422
St. Michaels Br. 522 FCSLA
Men's Club
Women's Choir
Boy Scouts of America Troop 550 & Pack 550
St. Vincent de Paul Society
Altar Society



ASSOCIATES



*** Rev. J. A. Weber**



***Rev. Geo. Hovanec**



***Rev. J. F. Krisko**



***Rev. S. F. Blasko**



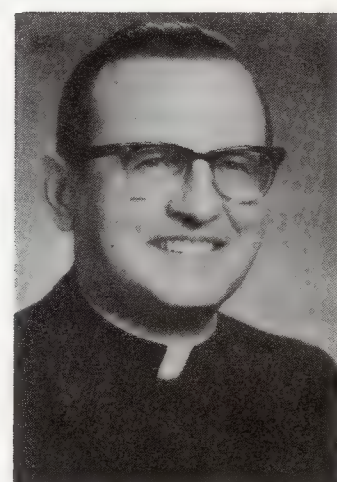
Rev. J. M. Kraynik



***Rev. S. M. Marjenin**



Rev. Jos. Babik



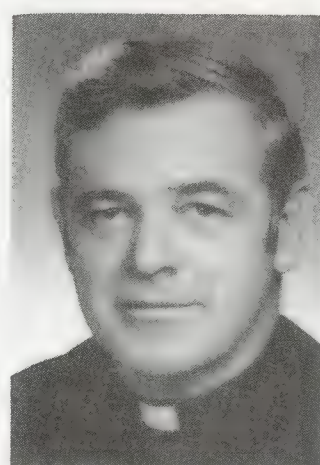
Rev. S. F. Radecky



Rev. S. T. Seliga



Rev. Desider Hoffman



Rev. R. G. Hanzo



Rev. J. E. Mach

*** Deceased**

VOCATIONS



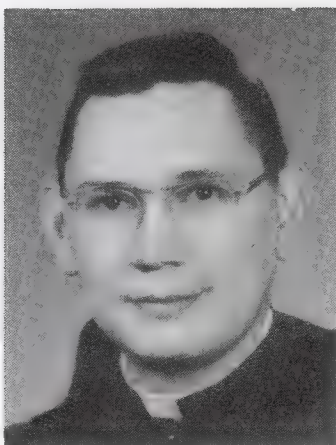
*** Rev. Jos. Krisko**



Rev. Jos. S. Ungarsky



Rev. Michael Ondik



Rev. Bart Dacek, OSB



Rev. Thomas F. Martin



Rev. John Putka, S.M.



Rev. Leonard Bacik



Rev. Ralph Olek, S.M.



Rev. Francis M. Bednar



VOCATIONS



Sr. M. Florine
Podsedly O. P.



Sr. Rose Ethel
Jendrus O. P.



Sr. Loretta Grace
Gadus O. P.



* Sr. M. Redempta
Mraz O. P.



Sr. M. Eleanore
Ungarsky O. P.



* Sr. M. Cordelia
Macko O. P.



* Sr. M. Lamberta
Sojack O. P.



Sr. M. Thecla
Kullak O. P.



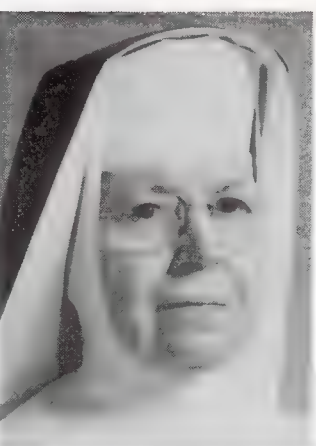
Sr. M. Agnes
Gadus O. P.



Sr. Andrew Marie
Podsedly O. P.



Sr. M. Reginald
Hvisdos O. P.



* Sr. M. Carmel
Jendrus O. P.



Sr. Agnes Marie
Hvisdos O. P.



Sr. Frances Martin
Dugas O. P.



Sr. M. Verene
Hanis V. S. C.



Sr. M. Incarnata
Hlavach O. P.



Sr. Ann Francine
Popelka O. P.

VOCATIONS



Sr. Eileen Therese
Majercik O. P.



Sr. Bartholomew
Kitko O. P.



Sr. Florine Therese
Majercik O. P.



Sr. Lillian Marie
Gadus O. P.



Sr. Mercita
Jendrus O. P.



Sr. Agnes Michael
Ondik O. P.



Sr. M. Therese
Kulka C. S. Sp.



Sr. Monica
Kolbay V. S. C.



Sr. Agnes Carmel
Dziak O. P.



Sr. M. Roseclare
Kulbaga S. N. D.



Sr. M. Fatima
Adams C. S. J.



Sr. Gladys M.
Ledinsky O. P.



Sr. Therese
Sedlock O. S. F.



Sr. Charlotte
Gambol V. S. C.



Sr. Elaine
Buynack O. S. U.



Sr. M. Agnes
Scalera S. S. T. S. M.



Sr. Karen Marie
Baran S. N. D.









*FIRST GRADUATION CLASS 1910
(Left to right) Bertha Onuska, Molly Janda,
and Dertha Tomcik.*



LAST GRADUATING CLASS 1972



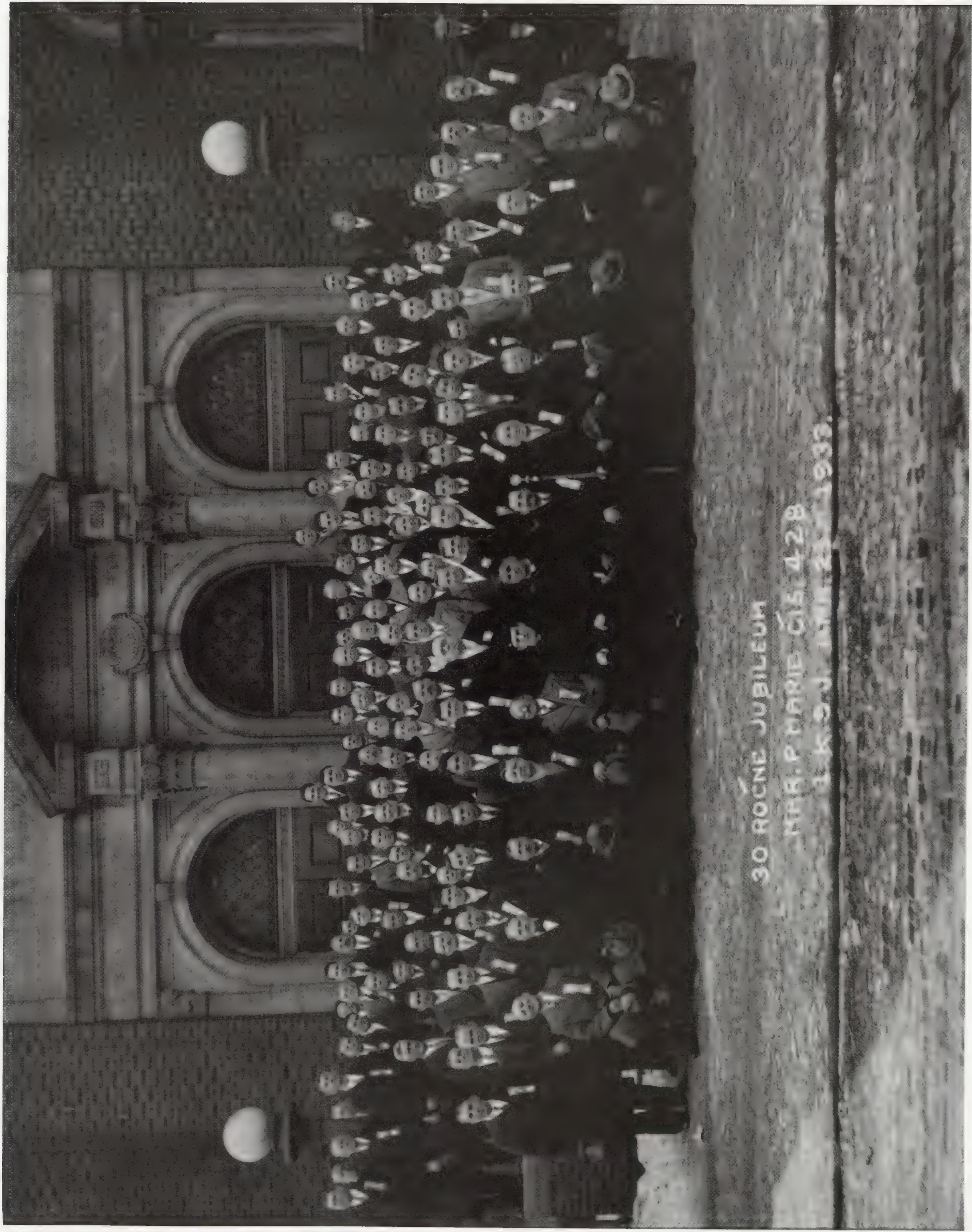




BLESSED VIRGIN
Side Altar



ST. JOSEPH
Side Altar



30 ROČNÉ JUBILEUM

MRHA. P. MARIE ČÍS. 428

1 K. S. J. MMR. 23. 1933.

Diamond

A Neighborhood Friend

Mr. & Mrs. Anthony Cannata & Family

Mr. & Mrs. Albert B. Cech

Mr. & Mrs. Frank Cech

The First Catholic Slovak Ladies Association

Villa Sancta Anna Home for the Aged

Zenska Jednota, 24950 Chagrin Boulevard, Beachwood, Ohio

St. Mary's Branch 141, First Catholic Slovak Ladies Association

St. Michael Archangel, Branch 522 and Junior Branch 453,

First Catholic Slovak Ladies Association

St. Rita Society, Branch 423 First Catholic Slovak Ladies Association

First Catholic Slovak Union of the U.S. A. and Canada

3289 East 55th Street, Cleveland, Ohio

St. Francis, Branch 398 and M.O. Branch 259 First Catholic Slovak Union

Nativity Blessed Virgin Mary Lodge Branch 428 and M.O. 32,

First Catholic Slovak Union

In Memory of Mr. & Mrs. Stefan Galajda and Clarence Galajda

Diamond

Hopko Funeral Home Inc., 6020 Broadview Road, Parma, Ohio 631-4888

In Memory of Justina Hrutkay, Dr. William J. Hrutkay and John J. Bacik
given by Tillie Bacik

Mr. & Mrs. Edward T. Hudak

Mr. & Mrs. Andrew Kosik

Mrs. Stephen Krajnak in Memory of Stephen Krajnak

Mr. & Mrs. John C. Mandula

Minute Men, Inc., Temporary Services,
Nicholas Lucarelli, Sr. and Samuel G. Lucarelli

John J. Novak

Mr. & Mrs. John S. Putka

Joseph T. Ranik

In Memory of John and Anna Rosko, given by Family

Mr. & Mrs. Matthew Stamblesky

Marie Sundra in Memory of Deceased Parents and Brothers

St. Vincent de Paul Society, Nativity B.V.M. Conference

MEMORIES

Looking back in memory, a lifetime of seventy-five years, I see my father and several other men going door to door, trying to raise the amount of money the Bishop stipulated was needed to start a Parish. It was very difficult. At that time (1902) men were working 12 hours for \$1.25, so to give a dollar meant sacrificing almost a day's wages.

Aetna and the surrounding streets were but dirt roads, no sewers and the only telephone available was at the rectory. No radios, televisions, automobiles or electrical appliances, in fact who had electricity? We had gas lights or kerosene lamps. Living then, by today's standards may seem to have been very primitive, but life was simple, happy and a beautiful community spirit prevailed. People needed people and helped each other.

We had no playgrounds or equipment. The street was our ball field or an empty lot that we may have cleared. We were not permitted to use the enclosed school yard. When our mothers wanted to find us for meals or chores, they would have to go over to Sandusky to the gulley to find us. This was our recreation area, where we searched the creek for crabs. If we were poor, we didn't know it. It was a way of life. We were happy.

During this period, because there was no Janitor, my brother Joe, who died in 1960, was

supposed to ring the Angelus. My poor Mother would have to find him first. I wonder how many parishioners reset their clocks because they thought the Angelus was rung on time. It rarely was while Joe was the bell ringer.

I remember ambulances, hearses, carriages, police "patty wagons" and fire engines all horse drawn.

I recall too, Fr. Chaloupka's first car in which I had my first auto ride. It was a Ford with brass carbide lamps for headlights, leather straps holding the buggy type top, a folding windshield, running boards on the sides. No windshield wipers, no trunk, just a box on the running board for tools, and isinglass covers for the sides to protect one from the elements.

The Altar Boys had to earn the right to serve at Mass. Our Latin had to be letter perfect or we would be reprimanded by the Pastor. We accepted the responsibility, no one would even think of missing his turn.

Every Sunday, in addition to attending Mass, we had to attend Vespers in the afternoon. God help you if you missed. Sister kept you in the classroom during lunch or after school as punishment.

This picture was taken 65 years ago! I wonder how many of us have survived?



*Top row (l to r) Andy Ungarsky, Joe Eskra, Frank Vasko, Steve Majzel, Andy Tomcik, J. Potancik (don't remember,) John Podsedly, John Mandula
Middle - Willie Hrutkay, Mike Mandula, S. Tindera, Frank Hudacek, Mike Ungarsky, Andy Chuha, John Ungarsky
Bottom - George Chizmar, Joe Vasko, Joe Spisak and John Lesnak*

MEMORIES (Continued)

In 1914 Fr. Chaloupka organized a baseball team and furnished the uniforms, baseballs, gloves and bats. You will observe none had spike shoes.

This was taken 64 years ago. Are there any others to enjoy this picture with me?

The first movies we ever saw, we enjoyed in our School Hall. I remember well going by street car to a film company on Euclid Avenue to bring and return 8 heavy reels of movies to be shown. Helped carry the heavy projector from the upper floor to set up for the movies.

We all worked hard every year during the Annual Bazaar, manning booths, selling chances, refreshments or whatever our assignments. In the earlier days, the school children were given books with spaces for signatures for chances on various raffles. "The early bird catches the worm" so we hurried after school and up the street to solicit as many homes as possible before the other kids got there.

Remembering is a wonderful experience. It is also very humbling and awesome when I think of how many have predeceased me. Many died during the Influenza epidemic during the First World War, so young, so long gone. Others reached maturity, married and then left families while still in the prime of life. Eternal Rest grant unto them, O Lord!

This is a time of Thanksgiving and gratitude to God for giving us life and health and loving families. That our Parish has survived for Seventy-five years. Our Slovak Ancestors sacrificed so much to make this possible. They laid the basic foundation and gave us our priceless heritage, our folklore and our cultures.

I hope our youth will proudly wear the Mantle we pass on to them. That they will encourage and support our Pastor, Rev. Thomas J. Lusoski who is a loving, compassionate and concerned Shepherd.

Remember, united we stand. Never underestimate the Power of Prayer.

John C. Mandula



*Top - M. Smola, P. Curilla, E. Palecek, M. Ungarsky, Gadus
Front - A. Chuha, S. Welling, M. Mandula, J. Paleter
Below - J. Kvacek, Middle - John Mandula, Mascot*

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from Husband, Michael

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Photography

Ronald Bugara

Moderator

Rev. Thomas J. Lusoski

We extend our sincere appreciation to all who in any way contributed to the success of the 75th Jubilee Celebration.

God Bless You.

Rev. Thomas J. Lusoski, Pastor

John F. Stefanov, General Chairman

September 10, 1978



Discussing plans for the 75th Anniversary of Nativity B. V. M. Parish with Father Tom Lusoski, a partial group of the whole Committee, which includes (first row) Mrs. Veronica Sopko, Mrs. Tillie Bacik, (life-long parishioner), George A. Sopko. Standing are John C. Mandula (life-long parishioner), Joseph Olsavsky and Andrew Mariecheck.



